

## House Resolution No. 1246

**Whereas**, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State organizations that are dedicated to bettering the quality of life in local communities and neighborhoods through programs related to preventing child abuse and neglect; and

**Whereas**, House of Hope, Incorporated, of Lexington, Missouri, has attained considerable distinction in light of its efforts to eliminate child abuse through education and support measures; and

**Whereas**, children are Missouri's most precious resource and represent the future of this great state; and

**Whereas**, during the year 2005, the state of Missouri experienced more than 54,000 reported incidences of child abuse and neglect involving nearly 81,000 children; and

**Whereas**, 5,427 cases of child abuse and neglect involving 7,640 children were substantiated in 2005, and during the year 2006 there were 25 child fatalities as a result of substantiated child abuse and neglect; and

**Whereas**, effective child abuse prevention programs, such as House of Hope, succeed because of community partnerships created among social service agencies, schools, businesses, law enforcement agencies, faith-based organizations, and other child-serving agencies; and

**Whereas**, every child is entitled to be loved, cared for, nurtured, secure, and free from verbal, sexual, emotional, and physical abuse; and

**Whereas**, House of Hope helps strengthen Missouri communities by having all citizens become aware of child abuse and neglect prevention and become involved in supporting parents who raise children in a safe, nurturing environment:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the history, goals, and accomplishments associated with House of Hope and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's most heartfelt best wishes as they observe Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month during April 2007; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for presentation to House of Hope, Incorporated, of Lexington, Missouri.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Joe Aull  
District No. 26

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 1246, adopted March 14, 2007.

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Rod Jetton, Speaker